

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AECE-00

GAC-01 IO-12 SAJ-01 SCI-06 MBFR-03 EUR-25 RSR-01 /178 W
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P 160050 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1630

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

UNCLAS MELBOURNE 0456

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, AS

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION ON FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTING PASSED BY
AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS FEDERAL
EXECUTIVE.

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SUBJECT AS READ TO US FROM MANUSCRIPT
BY ACTU OFFICIAL EVENING OF MAY 15:

2. BEGIN TEXT:

QTE. FOR MORE THAN A DECADE THE ACTU HAS MAINTAINED A
CONSISTENT ATTITUDE OF STRONG OPPOSITION TO TESTING AND
STOCKPILING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND IN PARTICULAR ATMOSPHERIC
TESTING OF NUCLEAR DEVICES.

QTE. 1973 MARKS THE 10 TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIMITED NUCLEAR
TEST BAN TREATY RISING FROM WORLD- WIDE ABHORRENCE OF THE
DANGER OF ATMOSPHERIC NUCLEAR TESTING TO THE HEALTH OF
THIS AND FUTURE GENERATIONS YET UNBORN.

QTE. THE WORDS OF THE 1965 SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF
TRADE UNIONS, HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE ACTU,
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RECOMMENDED THAT THE TEST BAN TREATY PROVIDE " THE OPPORTUNITY OF ENDING THE DANGER OF RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION OF THE ATMOSPHERE".

QTE. WE THEREFORE CALL ON ALL NATIONS WHICH HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PARTICULARLY FRANCE AND CHINA, WHICH OVER RECENT YEARS HAVE ENGAGED IN ATMOSPHERIC NUCLEAR TESTING, TO IMMEDIATELY SIGN THE TEST BAN TREATY.

QTE. IN RELATION TO THE IMMEDIATE DANGER THE ACTU EXECUTIVE ENDORSES THE RESOLUTION OF THE FEDERAL UNIONS' CONFERENCE HELD IN MELBOURNE ON MAY 10, 1973 WHICH WAS IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS.

BEGIN INNER QUOTE:

THIS FEDERAL UNIONS' CONFERENCE:

(A) CONGRATULATES THE ACTU EXECUTIVE AND OFFICERS ON THE INITIATIVES ALREADY TAKEN TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTING PROGRAM IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC WITH THE NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF LABOR AND THE ICFTU.

(B) APPLAUDS THE DECISION TAKEN IN MEXICO BY THE ICFTU FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE TO CALL ON ALL AFFILIATES AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE SECRETARIATES " TO TAKE FULL AND APPROPRIATE ACTION AGAINST FRENCH INTERESTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD."

(C) NOTES THAT, DESPITE THE STRONG REPRESENTATION MADE, TO WIT, ALL MAIN GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS INDICATED NO INTENTION OF CANCELLING ITS TESTING PROGRAM.

(D) BELIEVES THAT IN VIEW OF THIS, THE PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, AND PARTICULARLY IN THE PACIFIC AREA MUST ACT TO DEFEND THEMSELVES FROM THE DANGERS ASSOCIATED WITH HE FRENCH NUCLEAR
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TESTING PROGRAM AND THAT THE TIME FOR SUCH ACTION IS NOW -- BEFORE THE TESTING COMMENCES AND NOT JUST WHEN THE PROGRAM IS UNDERWAY.

(E) ACCORDINGLY DECIDES THAT THERE SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IMMEDIATELY BY THE AUSTRALIAN TRADE

UNION MOVEMENT A POLICY OF :

(1) REFUSING TO SERVICE IN AUSTRALIA, ANY SHIPS OR AIRCRAFT OWNED NAD/ OR REGISTERED IN METROPOLITAN FRANCE OR ANY SHIPS OR AIRCRAFT CHARTERED BY ANY FRENCH METROPOLITAN INTERESTS.

(2) BOYCOTTING THE HANDLING OR PURCHASE IN AUSTRALIA OF ANY GOODS ORIGINATING IN METROPOLITAN FRANCE.

(3) REFUSING ALL COMMUNICATION SERVICES TO OR FROM METROPOLITAN FRANCE UNTIL THE TESTING PROGRAM IS ABANDONED.

(F) CALLS ON THE FEDERAL COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT TO IMPOSE THE MAXIMUM DIPLOMATIC AND ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST FRANCE UNTIL THE TESTING PROGRAM IS ABANDONED AND TO JOIN WITH OTHER NATIONS IN THE PACIFIC REGION IN TAKING WHATEVER STEPS ARE PRACTICALLY AVAILABLE TO DISCOURAGE THE TESTING PROGRAM.

(G) URGES THE ACTU EXECUTIVE, IN AGREEMENT WITH THE ICFTU AND THE NZ FEDERATION OF LABOR, TO FIX THE EARLIEST PRACTICABLE DATE FOR THE MEETING OF APPROPRIATE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE PACIFIC AREA TO CONSIDER COORDINATED ACTION. END INNER QUOTE.

QTE. WE CALL ON OUR AFFILIATES TO GIVE EFFECT TO THIS RESOLUTION FROM MIDNIGHT ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1973 UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE ACTU AND IN COORDINATION WITH STATE BRANCHES OF THE ACTU.

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QTE. ANY INADVERTENT EFFECT ON EMPLOYMENT
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JPXABLIQLAFOOARISING# FROM THIS DECISION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE
OFFICERS OF THE STATE BRANCHES WITH A VIEW TO MINIMIZING
ANY HARDSHIP INVOLVED.

QTE. FURTHER, THE ACTU PLEDGES THAT WHERE THE WORKERS OF ANY COUNTRY ARE THREATENED BY NUCLEAR POLLUTION ARISING FROM ATMOSPHERIC TESTING BY ANY NATION, THAT IT WILL RESPOND TO ANY CALL BY THEM THROUGH THE ICFTU. IT ASKS THEM TO RESPOND TO THE PRESENT AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND CALL IN RESPECT OF FRENCH TESTING IN THE PACIFIC.

QTE. THE ACTU EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION FOR THE SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE ICFTU IN ASSISTING WITH THE MOBILIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL ACTION AROUND THE WORLD AGAINST FRENCH INTERESTS. END TEXT.

3. IN BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH ACTU OFFICEER ABOUT TEXT, WE UNDERSTOOD BAN:

(A) ON COMMUNICATIONS WOULD APPLY TO ALL MAIL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AS WELL AS AIR AND OTHER CRAFT REGISTERED IN, OR CHARTERED BY FRANCE;

(B) WOULD BE SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY ACTU FEDERAL EXECUTIVE AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME; AND

(C) WILL NOT DIRECTLY APPLY TO FRENCH FIRMS IN AUSTRALIA EXCEPT AS IT AFFECTS THEIR COMMUNICATIONS AND SUPPLIES FROM FRANCE.

4. CG WILL BE SEEING ACTU PRESIDENT HAWKE ON OTHER TOPICS TOMORROW MAY 17 AT 0830 MELBOURNE TIME.

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